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500.40886X00

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Tetsuya Hori et al.

Serial No.: 09/988,994

Filed: November 21, 2001

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD

Group: 2615

Examiner: Brian C. Genco

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 24, 2003

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and copies of the documents listed in the attached form PTO/SB/O8A equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted after the mailing date of a final action but before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by the fee of \$180.00 set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) and the following certification specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e):

On information and belief, Applicants hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

12/02/2003 SSANDARA 00000038 09988994

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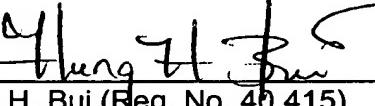
To the extent the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO/SB/O8A are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English language version or translation of the foreign patent office report citing the documents.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.40886X00) please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

By

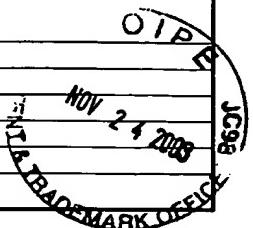

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	09/988,994
				Filing Date	November 21, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Tetsuya Hori
				Art Unit	2615
				Examiner Name	Brian C. Genco
				Attorney Docket Number	500.40886X00
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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